

What is claimed is:

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1. An apparatus for manufacturing a plasma display panel comprising a joining chamber that forms a plasma display panel by joining a front substrate and a rear substrate by heating a low-melting-point glass and a gas introduction and sealing chamber which introduces a luminescent gas into said plasma display panel which is formed by said joining chamber via a gas introduction port provided in said front substrate or said rear substrate, and seals said gas introduction port, said manufacturing apparatus further comprising:

a first mechanism for supplying a cover member formed by a metal sheet to which low-melting-point glass is applied to a first location within said gas introduction and sealing chamber,

a second mechanism provided in said gas introduction and sealing chamber for moving said cover member from said first location to a second location which is over a heating apparatus,

a third mechanism provided in said gas introduction and sealing chamber for performing vacuum exhausting an inside of said plasma display panel and introducing a luminescent gas into said plasma display panel, and

a fourth mechanism provided in said gas introduction and sealing chamber for heating said metal sheet to which said low-melting-point glass is applied by using said heating apparatus, so that said gas introduction port is sealed by said low-melting-point glass.

2. An apparatus for manufacturing a plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein a first member movable

up and down disposed within said gas introduction and sealing chamber, and a second member movable up and down which is surrounded by said first member are provided, said fourth mechanism is provided on said second member, and said third  
5 mechanism is provided in said first member.

3. An apparatus for manufacturing a plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein a plasma display panel in which said front substrate is fixed to said rear substrate is placed within said joining chamber, and said joining  
10 chamber is vacuum-exhausted and said front substrate and said rear substrate are joined by said low-melting-point glass.

4. An apparatus for manufacturing a plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein said joining chamber and said gas introduction and sealing chamber are a single  
15 chamber.

5. An apparatus for manufacturing a plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein a luminescent gas introduction system and a gas exhaust system are provided in said gas introduction and sealing chamber, and said  
20 luminescent gas introduction system and said gas exhaust system are communicating with the gas introduction/exhaust path provided inside said second member.

6. An apparatus for manufacturing a plasma display panel according to claim 5, wherein one end of said second  
25 member is brought into intimate contact with said plasma display panel.

7. A method for manufacturing a plasma display panel formed by heating a low-melting-point glass so as to join a front substrate to a rear substrate, after which a luminescent

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5           a first step of fixing said front substrate of said  
plasma display panel to said rear substrates, placing said  
substrates into a joining chamber, and then performing vacuum  
exhausting an inside of said joining chamber,

a third step of placing said joined plasma display panel in a gas introduction and sealing chamber which has been vacuum-exhausted, and then vacuum exhausting an inside of  
15 said plasma display panel,

a fifth step of introducing said luminescent gas into  
said plasma display panel which has been vacuum-exhausted,  
20 and

8. A method for manufacturing a plasma display panel according to claim 7, wherein said sixth step comprising:

a step of moving said cover member to a second location which is over a heating apparatus provided within said gas

a step of pressing said metal sheet to which is applied a low-melting-point glass on said heating apparatus against said gas introduction port and sealing said gas introduction port.

5 port.